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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/527,967	09/26/2005	Johann Ambrosi	740612-193	7462
41972 7590 06/19/2007 LAW OFFICES OF STUART J. FRIEDMAN 28930 RIDGE ROAD MT. AIRY, MD 21771			EXAMINER RIPLEY, JAY R	
			ART UNIT 3679	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/19/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/527,967

Applicant(s)

AMBROSI, JOHANN

Examiner

Jay R. Ripley

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3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/27/2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03/15/2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/16/2005, 07/07/2005.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of the species as shown in Figures 1 and 4 in the reply filed on 03/27/2007 is acknowledged. No claims withdrawn as presented in the instant application.

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statements (IDS) filed on 06/16/2005 and 07/07/2005 were considered by the examiner.

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "the radial surface areas of the cams are inclined in relation to the tangential direction and in relation to a radial plane" as recited in claim 7, lines 1-2, must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.

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- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (l) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the specification lacks section headings.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

8. In regard to claim 6, the phrase "bayonet-type", as recited in line 7, renders the claim(s) indefinite because the claim(s) include(s) elements not actually disclosed (those encompassed by

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""bayonet-type""), thereby rendering the scope of the claim(s) unascertainable. How exactly do the coupling members engage? How like a bayonet fastener?

9. In regard to claim 9, the phrase "slightly greater than" is recited in line 2. It is unclear as to what determines that something, in the instant the phrase concerns a distance versus width, is slightly greater than something else.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Horimoto (U.S. 5,857,713).

12. At the outset, it is noted that the ninth embodiment of the invention of Horimoto, as shown in Figures 18-19, is identical to the sixth embodiment, as shown in Figures 9-14, with the exception of the lock mechanism and associated structure (column 13, lines 14-18).

13. In regard to claim 1, Horimoto discloses in Figure 10 and Figure 19, the figures shown below, a symmetrical hose coupling comprising

a pair of like coupling members (1a and 1b, as observed in Figure 19, below),

each of the coupling members having a cylindrical hose attachment connector (4) and a cam ring integrally formed with the cylindrical hose attachment connector (as observed in Figure 19, below),

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the cam ring having a plurality of integral cams (8) that project on the periphery of the cam ring in a radial direction (the slots noted in Figure 19, below, result in the cams projecting radially from the cam ring - the blocking means appears to be positioned by the slots), the cams being hook-shaped in a tangential direction of the cam ring and each having a radial surface area (9 in Figure 10) for transmitting an axial force, and the cams of the coupling members engaging into each other in a bayonet-type fashion (as best determined, the coupling members engage each other in the recited fashion as indicated in column 13, lines 19-34).

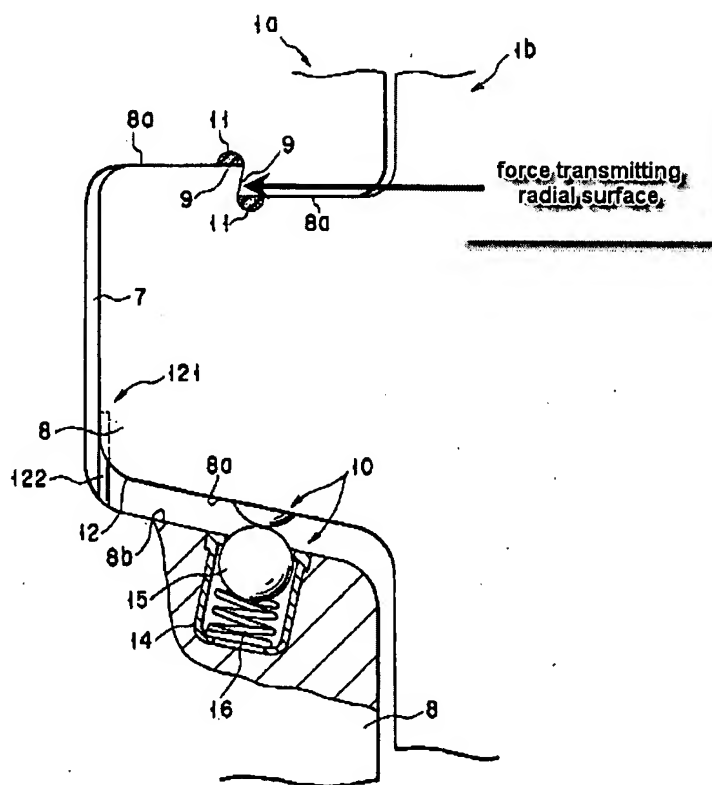
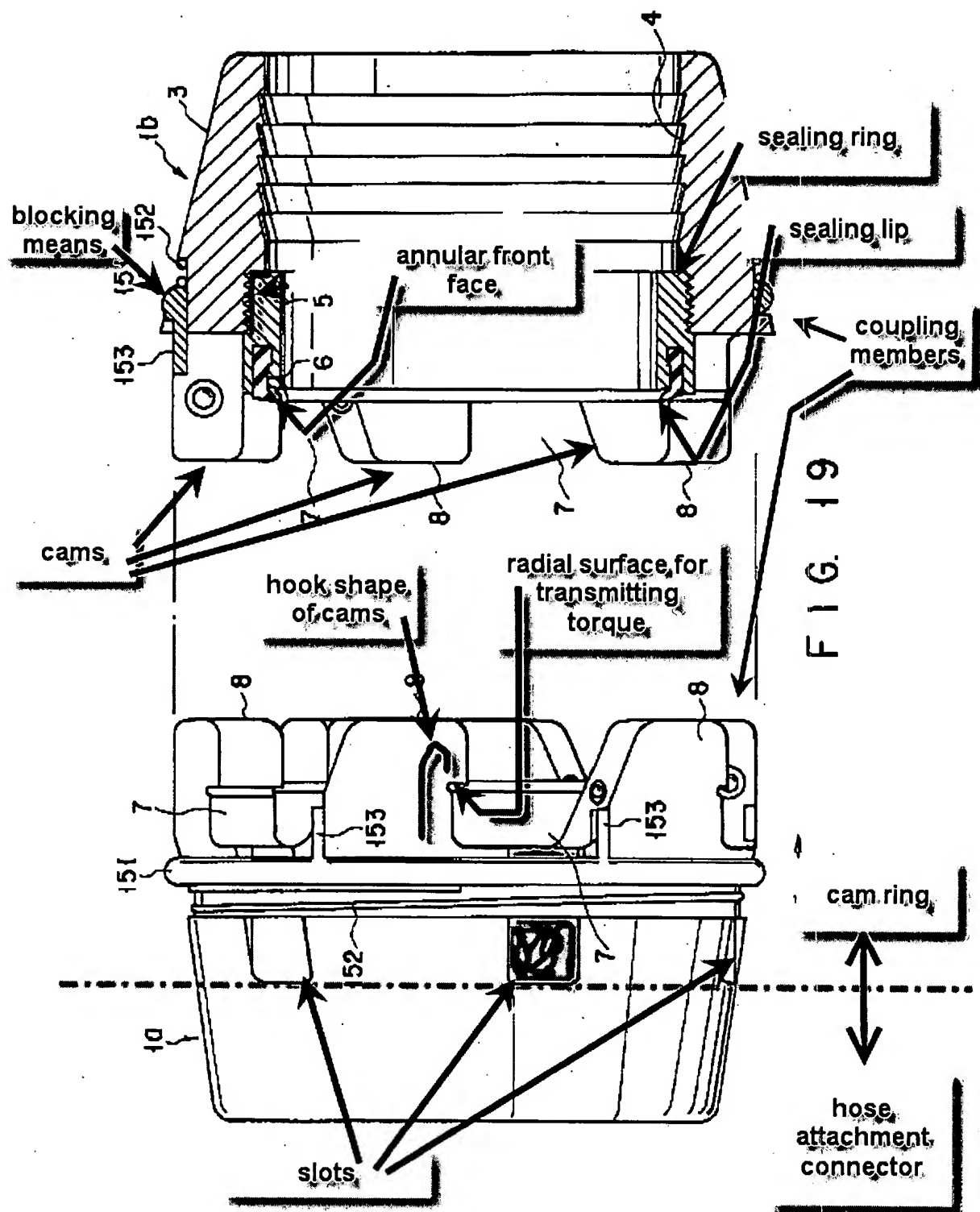


FIG. 10

(Horimoto Figure 10)

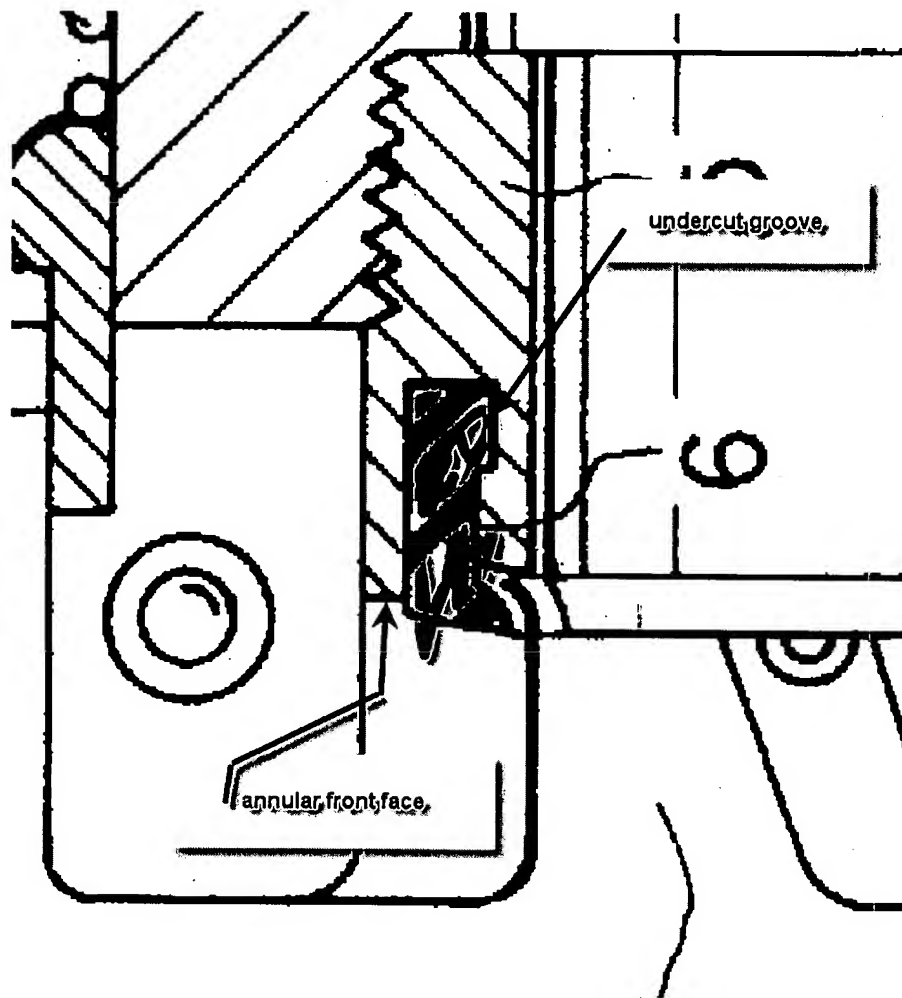


(Horimoto Figure 19)

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14. In regard to claim 7, Horimoto further discloses that the radial surface areas of the cams are inclined in relation to the tangential direction (column 8, lines 26-30, and observed in Figure 10, above) and in relation to a radial plane (column 8, lines 51-57).

15. In regard to claim 8, Horimoto further discloses, in Figure 19, above, and close-up of Figure 19, below, that the cam ring has an annular front face radially inwardly of the cams and an annular undercut groove is recessed in the annular front face for receiving a shaped sealing ring having a sealing lip which protrudes axially beyond the front face of the cam ring.



(close-up of Horimoto Figure 19)

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16. In regard to claim 9, Horimoto further discloses that the cams are arranged at distances from each other in a peripheral direction which are only slightly greater than the cams are wide in the peripheral direction (column 13, lines 19-34, - also, as the identically shaped cams appear to be equidistantly located about the circumference of the cam ring, the physical relationship of the cams being spaced apart a distance greater than the cam's width would be a necessity to allow axial mating of the coupling members).

17. In regard to claim 10, Horimoto further discloses that a blocking means (lock claws 153 as observed in Figure 19, above, and as disclosed in column 13, lines 19-34) are provided for locking the pair of coupling members with each other in a coupled condition.

Conclusion

18. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sparling et al (U.S. 5,333,915) and Carson (U.S. 4,643,459).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jay R. Ripley whose telephone number is 571-272-7535. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00AM - 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


J. R. Ripley
10 JUN 2007



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